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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY China (Sinkiang)
 SUBJECT Map of Urumchi/Miscellaneous Data on the City

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1. Urumchi (Tihwa) is not only the capital of Sinkiang Province, but also of the Urumchi Region, or administrative district. The towns of Manass (Suilai) and Chergohi are also in the Urumchi Region. I would estimate the total population of the city of Urumchi, as of late 1947, to be approximately 100 thousand people. This figure would include the two small villages of Chitapan and Patapan, which adjoin Urumchi on its northwestern outskirts. Of the 1948 total population of Urumchi, I would say only 1,200 were Russians. The predominant residents being Taranchis, Chinese, Tungsans, and a smaller number of Tatars and Uighurs. In Chitapan there is a textile mill which produces blue cotton cloth (item 4 on the enclosed map of Urumchi, which is a revision of the 1938 Sino-Swedish Expedition Map. The corrections, additions and locations were made not only by this source, but by four other Sinkiang sources. Under Sheng Tupan (up to October 1943), this textile mill was operated by the wives of Chinese officials who had been killed or were imprisoned by him. They not only worked there, but were also quartered at the mill. Just west of the textile mill is the Sovintorg Melka (wool washing plant) and their truck garage (not shown on the enclosed map).
2. There were four high schools in Urumchi. These were the Chinese school for men, 2nd Provincial Russian Gymnasium (educational), Chinese school for women and a Uighur educational school. There was also a university, the Sinkiang Provincial University (item 70), which was located on Nan Lian Street in the largest building of the town. When I left Urumchi, in late 1947, the Sinkiang Provincial University had a teacher's seminar, and courses in mechanics, agronomy, agriculture, irrigation, lumber, medicine, veterinary medicine, and a course for training military interpreters. There was also an officer training school attached to this university which was managed and instructed by Soviet military personnel. All the other courses were also taught by Soviet instructors who used Chinese interpreters in conducting their classes. In addition to the Sinkiang Provincial University there was also a Women's Institute which was located in a large building in the Chinese Fortress district of Urumchi. This institute specialized in literature and a course in teaching. All students attending this institute were required to complete courses in Chinese history and literature.

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3. There was a daily newspaper published in Urumchi whose name was "Sinchiang Jih Pao" Item 27. This paper was published in three languages, Chinese, Uighur and a small "bulletin" in the Russian language. The "Sinchiang Jih Pao" also had branches in Kuldja (Ining), Chuguchak (Tahcheng), Kashgar (Shufu) and Khotan (Hotien). The newspaper in these towns was only published in the Uighur and Chinese languages. In the fall of 1943 a division of the Chinese news agency, "Central News" was established in Urumchi.
4. There existed in Urumchi a society called the "Anti-Imperialist Society". The goal of this society was to attract and befriend the youth. They taught the youth Communist doctrines and the pro-Soviet ideals of the "New Sinkiang Central Government". In October 1943 this society was ordered closed and its political functions and teachings were taken over by the Kuomintang Party. Throughout Sinkiang every race and native tribe had its own club. These clubs were organized and operated, behind the scenes, by Soviet agents and whose main function it was to teach the elders of each race and tribe the Communist doctrines and to show Soviet propaganda films. In Urumchi there existed a motion picture company, which was called the Soviet-Chinese Film Company. This company supplied Soviet films, free of charge, to these various clubs. In Urumchi, Kuldja and Chuguchak, the Soviets established their official bookstores, "Meshkniga".
5. Every year on the 18th of September, there was a physical tournament and every three years, there was staged an "All-Sinkiang Sports Tournament" to which outstanding sportsmen from all 10 regions of Sinkiang were sent to compete at the Urumchi Sports Field Item 7. In Urumchi there was a "Central Committee for Women's Organizations", which was directed by the wife of Sheng Tupan. All other towns of Sinkiang had chapters of this organization. In 1942 the first large meeting of this organization was held, with delegates sent from all the major towns of Sinkiang.
6. There were three civilian hospitals Items 8, 17 and 37 and one military hospital Item 28 in Urumchi, which, until the end of Sheng Tupan's reign (fall of 1943), were operated and staffed by only Soviet physicians. After October 1943, these Soviet physicians were replaced by Chinese doctors.
7. The main offices of the Provincial Trading Company (Kun Chien Kunsu) Item 56 as well as its Soviet counter-part — Sovsintorg Item 47 were located in Urumchi. The Provincial Trading Company, as Sovsintorg, was almost exclusively staffed with Soviet employees. These two companies were charged with carrying on and accounting for all trade carried on between Sinkiang and the USSR. There were branches of these two companies in all major towns of Sinkiang. Every one of the 10 regional capitals of Sinkiang had a bank and its own separate governing bodies. Until 1943 Sinkiang had its own currency. After 1943 this currency was replaced by the paper money of the Chinese Central Government, but the Sinkiang currency continued to circulate and had a higher value than the Central currency.
8. In Urumchi, there were three airfields. One was the government Soviet-Chinese airfield used by Hamiata Air Line (the old Eurasian Air Line Airfield), the other was a military airfield (Tiaoou Airfield) which, after 1943, was the airfield used by the Central Chinese Government and the Soviet constructed Flashiadka Airfield. The airplanes of Hamiata operated between Hami (Qomul), Urumchi and Kuldja in Sinkiang, but did not call at Chuguchak, because there was no airfield there. Airplanes from Sinkiang made flights throughout China except during the Japanese war, when they only flew to Chungking. During the 1944-45 war in Kuldja these Chinese military planes made flights on Kuldja from Urumchi and sometimes were based at Shikho where a small military airfield was built for that purpose. Chinese military planes also took on passengers for flights to eastern China, but in very small number.

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Enclosure 1
Key to Map

1. Pagoda
2. Typographic Office
3. Lithographic Office
4. Textile Mill
5. Governor's Park, or City Park
6. New Chinese and Tungan Residential District
7. Sports Field
8. 3rd Provincial Hospital
9. 3rd Urumchi Prison
10. Main Offices of the Sinkiang Road Building Agency ("Dorstoi" - Dorozhnaia Stroitel'stva)
11. Chinese Monastery
12. Military Barracks
13. 2nd Urumchi Prison, formerly the Mongol Yamen
14. Provincial Headquarters of the GUP (Sinkiang secret police)
15. Telegraph Station
16. Governor's Yamen, within which the telephone station (125 units) and a prison for high dignitaries was located.
17. 2nd Provincial Hospital
18. China Inland Mission, which was converted into a prison
19. Chinese Pharmacy
20. Post Office
21. Soviet Pharmacy
22. Ministry of Finance
23. Electric Generating Plant, a very small and old one
24. 1st Urumchi Prison
25. Foreign Ministry
26. Currency Printing Office
27. Newspaper Office ("Sinkiang Jih Pao")
28. Military Hospital
29. Military Barracks
30. Aerial Mast
31. Aerial Mast
32. Aerial Mast
33. New Tatar Residential District, two streets and three long rows of homes built by the provincial government
34. Catholic Mission, converted into a death prison
35. Faust & Co.
36. New Taranchi Residential District
37. 1st Provincial Hospital
38. Prison; for lighter sentences. These prisoners were allowed to be visited by families and performed light laboring tasks in the city
39. Moslem Bazaar, the name for this general area where Moslem bazaars and stores were located
40. Small Shops
41. Small Shops
42. Soviet Consulate
43. Mosque
44. Restaurant
45. Kazakh Club
46. Governor's Summer Residence, owned by Chaniashev, a wealthy Tatar merchant, prior to his imprisonment and death
47. Sovsintorg Offices and Warehouse
48. Small Park
49. Provincial Warehouse, formerly owned by Chaniashev
50. Soviet Mining Expedition Offices and Warehouse
51. GPU Headquarters (Soviet secret police)
52. Russian Club and Mezhnaga (Mezhnorochnaia Sovetskaya Knizhnaya Aginstvo) Bookstore
53. Hamiata Offices
54. Small Flour Mill
55. Cooperative Store, for Soviet personnel in Urumchi
56. Provincial Trading Company (Kun Chien Kunsu)
57. Russian Orthodox Church
58. 2nd Provincial Russian Gimnazia (high school)
59. Soviet Trading Commission (Sovetskoe Torgovoe Aginstvo), owned by K V Gmirkin prior to his imprisonment and death
60. Billets for Soviet Pilots, owned by Dr K I Dubrovskiy prior to his imprisonment and death
61. Electric Generating Plant, 225 kws
62. Meteorological Station
63. Main Radio Transmission Station
64. UK Consulate
65. US Consulate
66. Headquarters of City Militia (police)
67. Military Barracks
68. "Dorstoi" Garage and Parts Shop
69. Military Topographic Office
70. Sinkiang Provincial University
71. Russian Kindergarden and Elementary School
72. Soviet Mining Expedition Warehouse
73. Dormitories for University Students
74. Walled Enclosure, where troops camped
75. Russian Homes, single-story, brick houses constructed by the government
76. New Russian Residential District
77. Oil Pressing Factory
78. Flour Mill

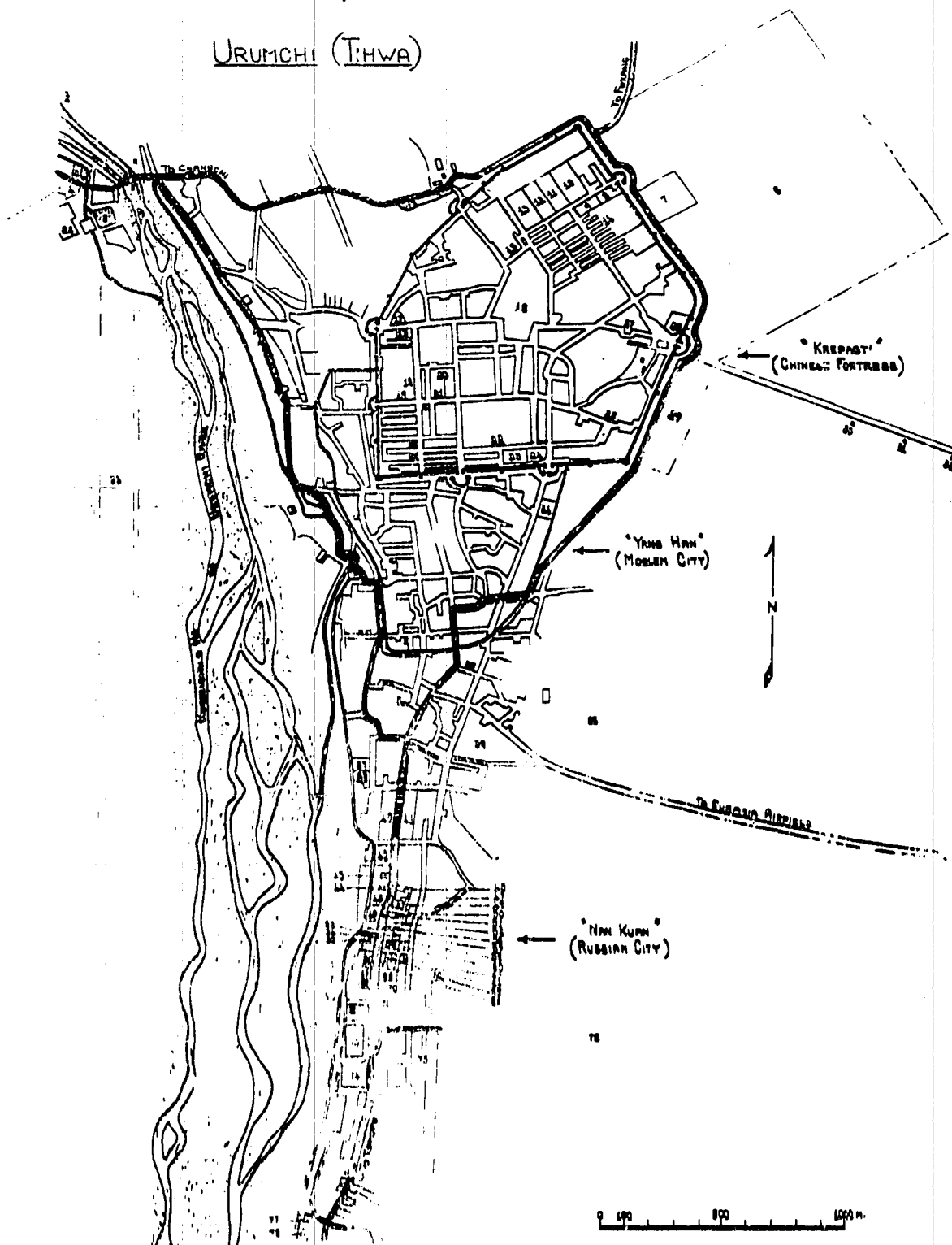
[Note: The shaded streets on the enclosed map are the main thoroughfares running through the city.]

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